



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Raised Bill No. 1330

LCO No. 4485

04485_____ET_

Referred to Committee on Energy and Technology

Introduced by:
(ET)

AN ACT CONCERNING ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2007*) (a) As used in this
2 section:

3 (1) "Environmental justice" means the equal protection and
4 meaningful involvement of all people in the development,
5 implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations
6 and policies;

7 (2) "Overburdened community" means a census tract (A) for which
8 not less than twenty per cent of the population consists of
9 noninstitutionalized low-income persons or not less than fifty per cent
10 of the population consists of noninstitutionalized minority persons,
11 and (B) having more than three affecting facilities located within a five
12 mile radius; and

13 (3) "Affecting facilities" means electric generating facilities, waste
14 incinerators or combustors, sewage treatment plants, waste storage,
15 transfer or disposal facilities, landfills, facilities that produce

16 hazardous substances, major sources of air pollution, as defined by the
17 federal Clean Air Act, sources with air emissions that exceed the
18 federal Toxic Release Inventory reporting threshold pursuant to the
19 federal Emergency Planning, Community Right-to-Know, and
20 Pollution Prevention Act, and limited access highways.

21 (b) (1) Not later than January 1, 2008, the Department of
22 Environmental Protection, the Department of Public Utility Control
23 and the Connecticut Siting Council shall each adopt regulations, in
24 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes,
25 that describe the departments' or council's procedures concerning the
26 consideration of environmental justice in granting licenses, permits or
27 authorizations or in other decision-making processes that relate to
28 affecting facilities.

29 (2) Not later than January 1, 2008, the Department of Environmental
30 Protection, the Department of Public Utility Control and the
31 Connecticut Siting Council shall each adopt regulations, in accordance
32 with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, describing
33 actions each department or council shall take to reduce the incidence of
34 pollution in overburdened communities.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
---	--	--

Section 1	October 1, 2007	New section
-----------	-----------------	-------------

Statement of Purpose:

To reduce the incidence of pollution in communities that are already overburdened by environmental pollution.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]